

**Amendments to the Specification:**

*Please amend the section beginning under the caption "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION" on page 1, at line 3 as shown below:*

This application claims the priority of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/761,465, filed on January 16, 2001, published on July 18, 2002 as US 2002/0093128, issued on April 20, 2004 as U.S. Patent No. 6,723,275, and entitled "Vortex Inhibitor With Sacrificial Rod".